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ACCOUNT

OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

TOWN OF MONT-VERNON,

TOGETHER WITH

THE SCHOOL REPORT,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1874.

CABINET PRESS—AMHERST.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
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SELECTMEN OF MONT VERNON IN ACCOUNT WITH SAID TOWN.

DR—To cash in Treasury, Feb. 25th 1873,	$879 27
" Amount of taxes assessed,	4,763 83
" Cash received from State,	578 35
" Bonds sold,	591 00
" Interest on Bonds,	270 00
" Cash from Liquor Agent,	20 58
" Cash from sale of lots in Cemetery,	4 00
" Cash borrowed,	650 00
	$7,757 03

CR.—By Cash paid out as follows:

State Tax $1080.00; County Tax 355.98,	$1,435 98
C. Kendall, Note and Interest,	1,141 41
G. G. Batchelder, Note and Interest,	73 61
R. Smith, Note and Interest,	112 00
E. Upton, Interest,	15 00
E. Batchelder on Note,	1005 86
Donation to McCollom Institute,	266 66
C. G. Hatch, damage on highway,	25 00
C. Richardson, Insurance on Town Hall,	16 50
M. G. Rotch, watering place,	3 00
Printing Town Report, 1873,	14 00
P. F. Pike, digging graves, care of hearse, and attending funerals,	23 50
John Smith, tolling bell,	4 00
Dr. Bunton, reports of births and deaths,	2 00
W. O. Lamson, sheep killed by dogs,	5 00
Support of Paupers,	255 67
Town Clerk 22.00; Town Treasurer 20.00;	42 00
Collector 50.00; Constable 2.00;	52 00
M. V. B. Green, Books and Blanks,	12 00
Postage, stationery, and warrants,	2 86
A. Travis, Moderator,	4 00
W. G. Bruce and A. Travis, Auditors,	3 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Non-resident overtax, 1873,	12 56	
Overtax, 1873, ; J. E. Bruce, 4.64 ; James Alexander, 4.62 ; Heirs of J. H. Bennett, 5.12 ; Dr. S. Bunton, 9.50 ; G. W. Averill, 1.16 ; E. Gutterson, 2.32 ; S. H. Keeler, 1.90 ; O. Hoyt, 1.90,		43 72
		$4,561 77

Amount brought up, $4,561 77

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Centre District, 359.62; South do., 149.54; East do., 92.00; North do., 86.61; West do., 70.00; Amherst 22.00; Superintending School Committee, 31.00. 810 77

BREAKING ROADS IN 1873 AND 1874.

District No. 1, 2.75; No. 2, 21.80; No. 3, 26.55; No. 4, 40.25; No. 5, 83.22; No. 6, 42.21; No. 7, 24.99; No. 8, 45.95; No. 9, 70.63; No. 10, 27.55; No. 11, 83.75; No. 12, 38.11; No. 13, 104.74; No. 14, 39.45; No. 15, 26.22; No. 16, 61.97; No. 17, 35.45. 775 59

EXTRA REPAIRS ON HIGHWAY.

District No. 4, 15.50; No. 5, 8.00; No. 8, 3.62; No. 10, 17.04; No. 12, 13.90; No. 14, 1.70; 59 76

Non-resident Highway receipts, 156 50

SELECTMEN'S SERVICES.

John Trevitt, 52.00; John T. McCollom, 50.00; H. F. Dodge, 40.00. 142 00

NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

E. Upton, 104.00; Literary Note, 150.70; E. Batchelder, 600.00; H. E. Kittredge, 117.26; C. Green, 631.29; S. Underwood, 279.02; A. Upton, 401.45; R. D. Upton 265.33; B. Crosby, 960.76; B. Trow, 312.46; J. Perkins, 229.32; P. Smith, 1696.00; R. Smith, 208.00; A. Trow, 209.20. 6164 79

Whole amount of claims against the town, $12,671 18

Amount of DR. from second page, $7,757 03
Amount of State Bonds on hand, 4,500 00—12,257 03

Balance against the town, $414 15

Respectfully submitted,—

JOHN TREVITT,
JOHN T. McCOLLOM,
HENRY F. DODGE,
} Selectmen of Mont Vernon.

MONT VERNON, FEB. 26th, 1874.—We have this day examined the Selectmen's Report, and find the same correctly cast, and properly vouched.

A. TRAVIS,
WM. G. BRUCE,
} Auditors.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Town of Mont Vernon submits the following Report.

DR.—To Cash in Treasury, March, 1873,	$3 57
Note for uncollected taxes for 1872,	725 00
Literary Fund Note	150 70
State Bonds on hand,	5,100 00
Cash Borrowed,	650 00
Interest on State Bonds,	270 00
Cash received from State on Banks, Railroads, &c.,	578 35
" " " Peter F. Pike for lots sold in cemetery	4 00
" " " sale of Liquors,	20 58
" " " Collector for 1873,	3,938 83
Note for uncollected taxes, 1873,	825 00
	$12,266 03
CR.—By paying the following :	
State Tax	$1,080 00
Connty Tax	355 98
Literary Fund Note	150 70
Discount on State Bonds sold	9 00
Paying 86 orders of Selectmen	5,070 41
State Bonds on hand	4,500 90
Note for uncollected taxes for 1872	74 44
Note for uncollected taxes for 1873	825 00
	$12,065 53

Whole amount of Receipts,	$12,266 03
" " Bills Paid	12,065 53
Balance in Treasury	$200 50

All of which is submitted, D. R. BAKER, TOWN TREASURER.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR FROM FEB. 21ST, 1873, TO FEB. 21ST, 1874.

DR.—To cash received as follows :

From county	$28 00	
Town Treasurer	255 67	—283 67

CR.—By cash paid out as follows :

Paid Bradley Jones for aid to A. S. Fuller	$2 00	
W. Williams, tobacco for L. Averill, 1872 and 1873,	2 00	
W. Williams and A. Carson for Board of L. Averill from Feb. 20th, 1873 to Feb. 23rd, 1874,	65 71	
For Board of Catherine Farnum from March 11th, 1873, to March 23rd, 1874, inclusive,	62 50	
Board Lucy J. Wallace from Feb. 1, '73 to Feb. 1, '74,	91 00	
W. Williams, for Board of Sally Holt,	9 75	
E. F. Trow, removing Sally Holt to Wilton,	5 00	
Clothing for Levi Averill	18 28	
Expense transient paupers 9.43 ; Overseer's services 18.	27 43	—283 67

CHARLES J. SMITH, OVERSEER OF POOR.

MONT VERNON, Feb. 26, 1874.—We have examined the foregoing accounts of the Treasurer and Overseer of Poor, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched. A. TRAVIS, WM. G. BRUCE, } Auditors.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee was appointed without his seeking. Having accepted the trust, he determined to perform the duties of the office to the best of his ability. Unprejudiced toward any teacher, pupil, citizen, or district, he presents this report as an impartial statement of school matters in the town, for the past year, as they seem to him.

He has made twenty-one visits, spending ten days. A few subjects seem worthy of attention.

General Condition of Education in the Town: Taken together our district schools have been good,—our teachers well qualified,—the money well laid out. No exciting disturbance has occurred. There has been a fair degree of interest manifested in the district schools, and a very marked degree in the Institute.

The town furnishes from 30 to 35 pupils during six months of the year. Your Committee, with 24 years experience in the schools of Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, knows no town which has more reason to be proud of its large number of far-advanced scholars. This state of things is due, in no small degree, we think, to the liberal gift made by George W. McCollom as an endowment of the Institute. We know all our citizens are grateful, while our young people hold him in fond remembrance; for they are enjoying opportunities they could not have had but for him.

Text Books: There is really an urgent need for a less number of text books. Of Geographies and Arithmetics, both ancient and modern, there is a great variety. Some schools have more classes than pupils. Patience, labor, time, and money, all are lost, when things are so.

Aids to Teaching: Not a school in town has a mathematical solid, mural map, globe, or books of reference, and only one has a clock, or dictionary. A little effort might furnish these, and similar aids; and, they are aids indeed,—like mowing machines in time of haying.

The District System: Your Committee has carefully examined the Statute of this State relative to abolishing the District system of schools, and adopting the Town system. The law is similar to the Massachusetts law. Your Committee has been both teacher and school officer in Massachusetts during seven

years, and is fully of opinion that Mont Vernon would be the gainer, in many respects, by adopting the town system.

Equality in Districts: The Centre school had 31 weeks of school the past year; the South, 21; the East, 16; the North, 18; the West, 15. We fail to see either equality or justice here.

The town system would remedy this defect;—so would the division of the money by Superintending Committee and Select-men;—so would one-half divided equally, and the other half on the basis of taxation;—so would the raising of an extra sum *especially* for the outer districts. We think the outer districts would make good use of more money. Let us have the mind of the voters at no distant day. The town has a right to direct.

Lectures. &c.: During the winter term of schools, the teachers and pupils were invited to prepare an evening's entertainment, consisting of declamations, compositions, singing, &c.—All promptly responded. The result was manifestly good. To those entertainments your Committee contributed his mite by way of a lecture. Many citizens were present, aiding, and appearing to enjoy, the efforts of the children. We hope such meetings will be repeated with even better results.

Centre School.—This District had three terms of school during the year, all taught by Miss Emma F. Robertson of Greenfield. There is plenty of money here, and it has been well expended. Miss R. labored quietly and earnestly for the good of her pupils. Having self-control, she *governs* her school without display, as well out of doors as in doors. Laudably ambitious, and conscientious to do right, she labors patiently and successfully. Each examination was an improvement upon the preceding one. Very commendable progress, accuracy, clear comprehension, good behavior, as well out of doors as in, are marked features of this school. This desirable state of things was not obtained without hard work on the part of teacher and pupils, and practical interest and co-operation on the part of parents. The Irish boys and girls in this school do well, and promise well.

The Winter examination was attended by many parents. When all work together, success is sure to follow. Miss R. worked hard; she did well; her school was a good one.

West District.—The Summer Term was taught by Miss Alice W. Richardson of Newton, Mass. This was her first effort as a teacher; yet, she proved herself possessed of the elements of a successful teacher. Full of ambition and energy,

she roused her pupils to earnest work; a fine reader, her school improved well in that branch. The examination was quite interesting, and evinced a good improvement. So far as we know, Miss R. kept a good school, and gave full satisfaction.

The Fall Term of eight weeks was taught by Miss Ella M. Dodge of Francestown. Miss D. had the advantage of some previous experience,—kept a good school, and gave satisfaction. This school, per scholar, is the most expensive one in town,—more than twice as much as at the Institute. What can be done?

East District.—Miss Mary L. Kelso of New Boston, was the teacher of the Summer Term. Miss K. had the advantage of much more experience than any other teacher in our District Schools this year.

A young lady of irreproachable character, acting from conscientious impulses, ever anxious to do right, Miss K. evidently desired, and labored for, the best interest of her pupils. She gave them good example, and good counsel. The examination was witnesssed by two parents.

Miss Helen M. Lowe of Contoocook taught the Winter Term. She had some experience in teaching; yet, we cannot say her school was a perfect success. The pupils were uneasy, inattentive, and failed to show much progress. Many of the pupils are young; but, they can do much better, and do themselves no physical or mental harm. The number, too, is large enough to make a fine school. The *house* is good, convenient, pleasant; but, something is not just right. The records show visits by three parents during the year, and the smallest percentage of attendance in town. This school needs a teacher for the coming year who will both lead and drive,—lead with the ability of $10 per week, and drive with restless energy.

North District.—Miss Emma F. Wyman teacher during the year. Miss W. is one of Mont Vernon's corps of talented young ladies. She won the warmest friendship of her pupils. Her second term was an improvement upon the first. There are some good scholars here,—going to make teachers, they say. We think the material good. Some there are, too, disposed to push faster and further than they well understand. The Summer examination showed progress,—house neatly ornamented, and a good many of the citizens present. The compositions, declamations, and singing, evinced good ability, and a desire to excel. The Winter examination was still better; although the

record shows only one half the number of visits by citizens, and four times as many tardinesses. Classes in Geography, Mental Arithmetic, Grammar, Reading, and Spelling, did well. A little sharper discipline would do no harm. Considering the shortness of terms, the large number of classes, the variety and venerable age of text books, we think reasonable people will have no reason to complain of the work done.

SOUTH DISTRICT.—This school was taught during the year by Miss Hattie J. Carson, also of Mont Vernon. Miss C. is a good scholar; always prompt, ready, and willing, whenever and wherever duty calls. She had some discouragements; although, so far as we are informed, she gave general satisfaction. A few of the boys could have behaved better. We hope they will hereafter. Here is material for a number one school. The Winter examination was quite satisfactory. The pupils appeared well, and desirous of gaining credit. They did gain it. This school, like the Centre, and North, has a fine class in Mental Arithmetic. Quite a good number of citizens were present at the close, and several made commendatory remarks. We may safely call this school a good one, and give Miss C. a good deal of deserved credit. A few dollars expended in the school-room would render it more inviting.

STATISTICS.

District.	*Summer, Fall and Winter Terms.*	*Length in weeks.*	*Wages per month.*	*No. of Scholars.*	*Average.*	*Times Tardy.*	*Reading.*	*Spelling.*	*Arithmetic.*	*Geography.*	*Grammar.*	*Penmanship.*	*History.*	*Algebra.*	*Composition.*
Centre.	S	10	30	27	24	24	27	27	19	13	6	14	5		6
	F	11	32	25	23	9	25	25	17	11	3	12	3		6
	W	10	32	19	15	4	19	19	18	8	4	11	7	1	5
North.	W	9	14	16	13	33	16	16	12	6	6	12	1	1	8
	S	9	14	18	16	8	19	19	15	7	6	15	3	2	9
South.	S	9	18	12	9	18	12	12	8	4	2	4			
	W	12	29	20	16	50	20	20	15	9	3	5			
East.	S	8	18	17	15	3	17	17	10	5	4	9			
	W	8	30	22	17	22	22	22	15	12	1	10	1		
West.	S	7	16	7	6	2	7	7	6	2	1	6			
	W	8	21	6	5	6	6	6	5	3		5			

Amount of money raised by the town, including Literary Fund, $779.77. Amount allotted Centre District, $359.62; South Dist., 149.54; North Dist., $86.61; East Dist., $92.00; West Dist., $70.00; No. 8, Amherst, $22.00.

GEORGE W. TODD, *Supt. School Committee.*